

GLORY

CELESTINE



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CANADA

2000
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RAYMOND

GLORY CELESTINE

DARK ANGEL

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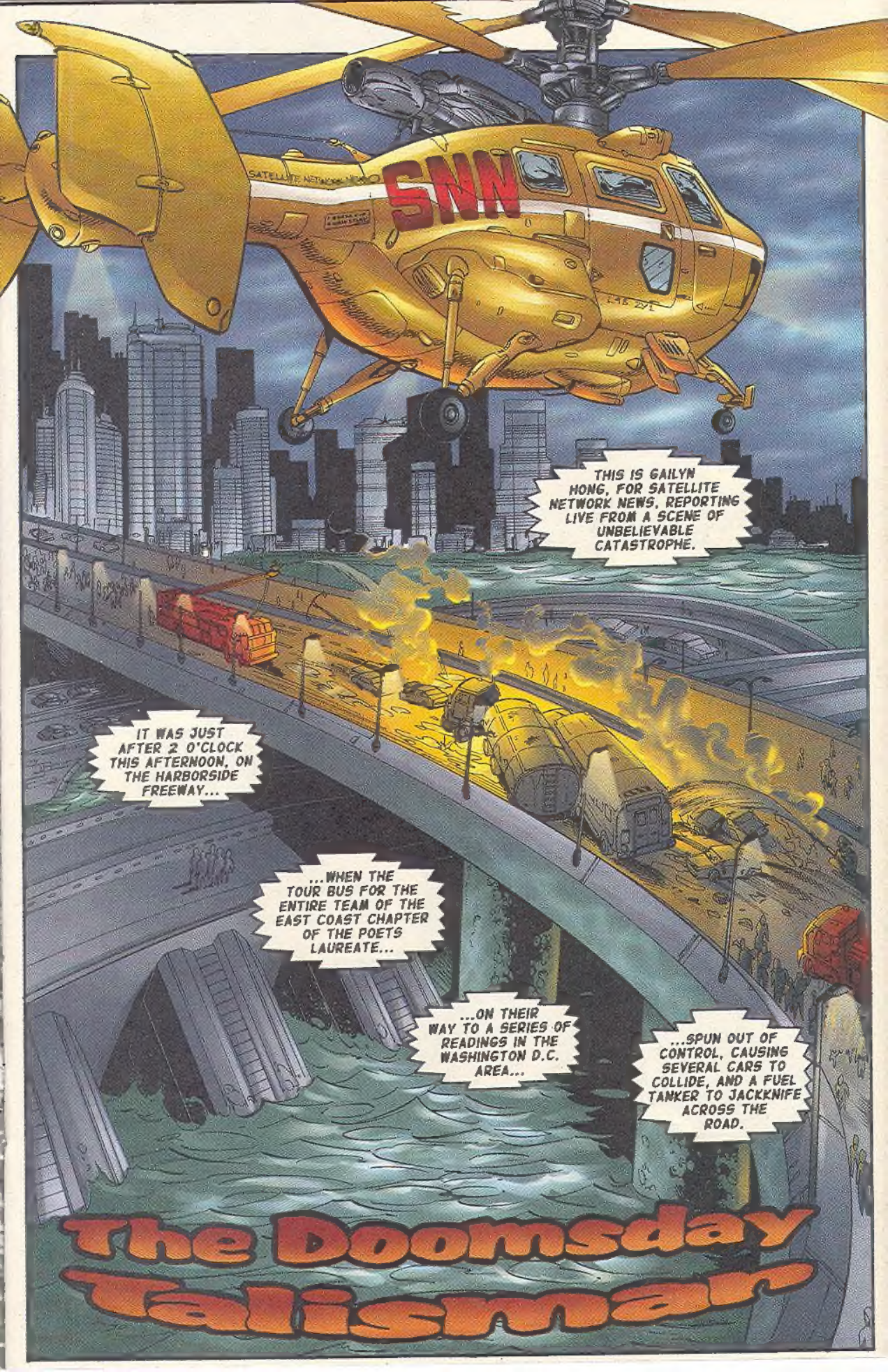
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THIS IS GAILYN HONG, FOR SATELLITE NETWORK NEWS, REPORTING LIVE FROM A SCENE OF UNBELIEVABLE CATASTROPHE.

IT WAS JUST AFTER 2 O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON, ON THE HARBORSIDE FREEWAY...

...WHEN THE TOUR BUS FOR THE ENTIRE TEAM OF THE EAST COAST CHAPTER OF THE POETS LAUREATE...

...ON THEIR WAY TO A SERIES OF READINGS IN THE WASHINGTON D.C. AREA...

...SPUN OUT OF CONTROL, CAUSING SEVERAL CARS TO COLLIDE, AND A FUEL TANKER TO JACKKNIFE ACROSS THE ROAD.

The Doomsday Talisman



NOW, THE BUS IS
TURNED OVER, WITH MOST
OF ITS LITERARY GIANTS
TRAPPED INSIDE...

...AND POLICE AND FIRE
FIGHTING OFFICIALS ARE
FORCED TO KEEP EVERYONE
AWAY FROM THE BLAZE,
UNABLE TO HELP...

...DUE TO THE DANGER OF
WHAT MAY OCCUR WHEN
FLAMES FROM THE DESTROYED
VEHICLES REACH
THE SPILLED FUEL.

ALL ANY OF US
CAN DO IS WATCH AND
WAIT, PRAYING FOR THE
VICTIMS...

...AND WONDERING WHAT
WILL BE THE COST TO THE
FUTURE OF AMERICAN
LITERARY TRADITION...

...UNLESS SOME GIANT
OF A MORE PHYSICAL SORT
GETS HERE ON TIME. BUT
THE CLOCK IS TICKING.



TREY COLTRANE IS ONE OF
THE LUCKY ONES. TREY...YOU
WERE THROWN CLEAR OF THE
POETRY BUS WHEN THE
ACCIDENT OCCURRED.

WHAT CAN
YOU TELL US?



DEATH. IT'S THE
MISTRESS OF US ALL,
THE EMBRACE WE ALL
SEEK, AND OUR DRIVER
WAS SMOKING A--!

WAIT A MINUTE.

WHAT IS
THAT? OFF IN THE
DISTANCE?



HAVE
EVERYONE'S
PRAYERS BEEN
ANSWERED?



YES, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
IT'S TRUE.

LIKE AN
ANGEL OF MERCY--
IT'S GLORY!

BUT IS SHE
IN TIME?

I
HOPE
SO.

HAVE TO
GET THEM OUT...
BEFORE THEY END UP
A DEAD POET'S
SOCIETY.

THEY'D
BETTER BE
GRATEFUL.

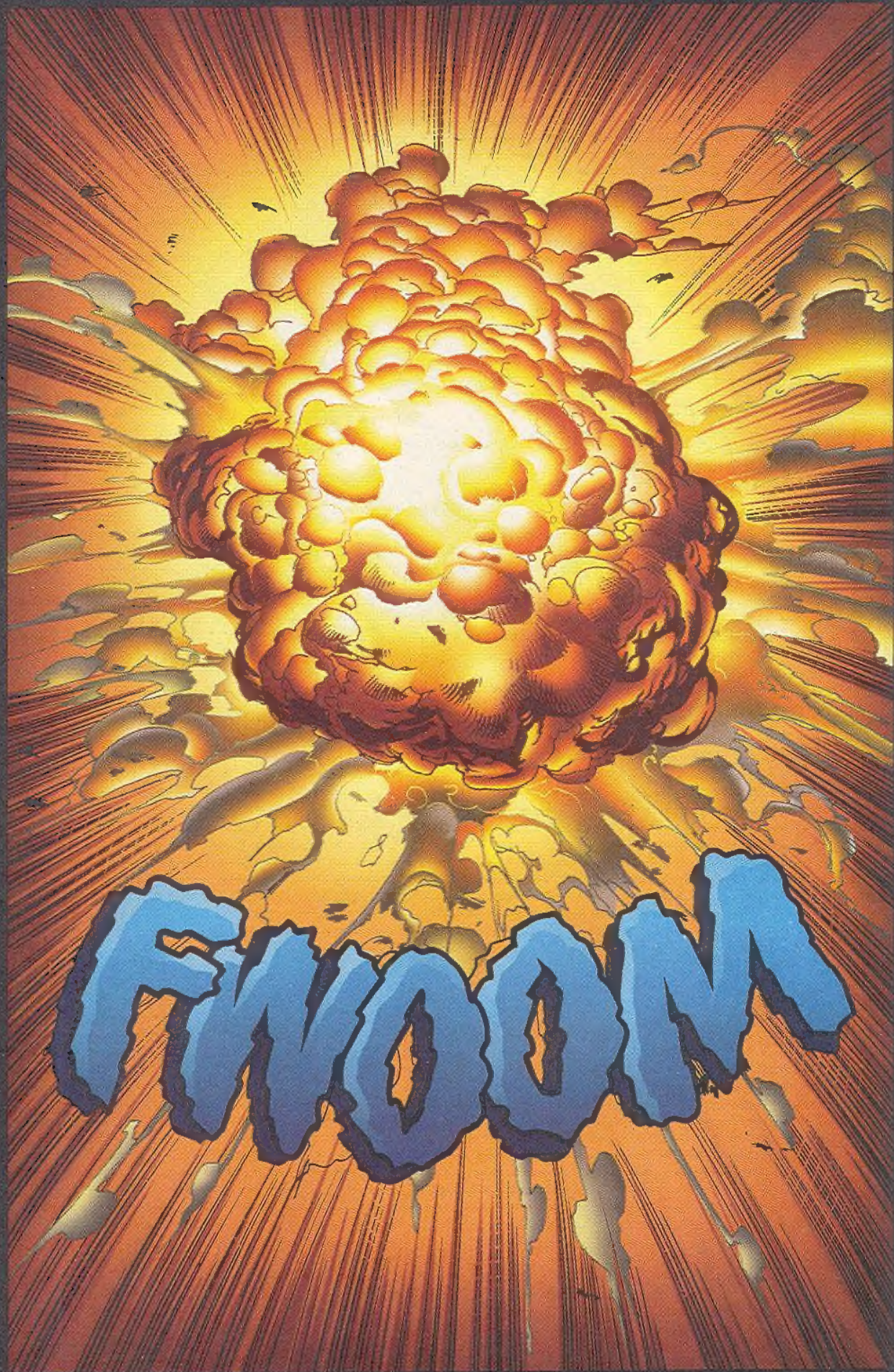
BLAST!
THIS IS MORE...
THAN I CAN
SHIFT.

GLORY!
WHERE'S SHE
GOING?

SHE'S
ABANDONING
US!

BASE,
VAINGLORIOUS
STRUMPET!







LOOK AT ALL THE COLORS. A DAZZLING DISPLAY.

PALE DAYLIGHT GARBED IN SUNSET'S BRIGHTER HUE.



ARE YOU STONED?

YOU UNFORGIVABLE IDIOT!

WENDELL FLEW FROM DEATH'S EMBRACE!

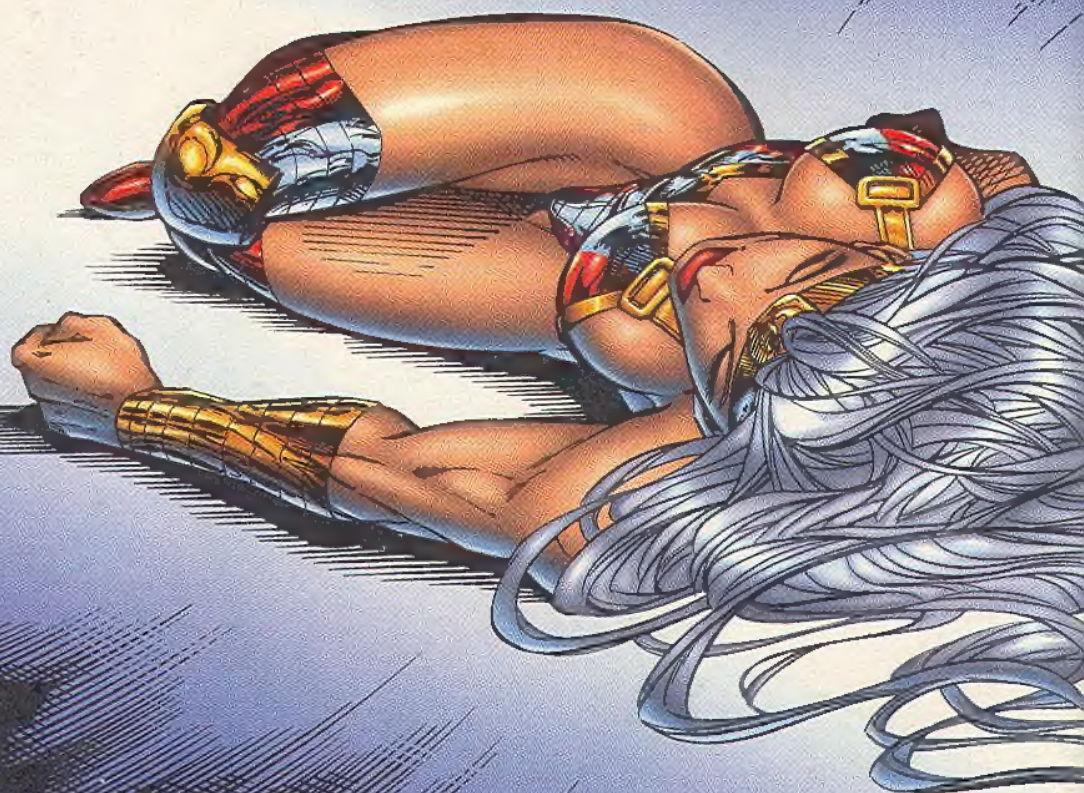


GLORY! GLORY! ANY WORDS FOR MY VIEWERS?



YOU JUST SAVED DOZENS OF LIVES. GLORY...

GLORY? HOW DO YOU FEEL?





ELSEWHERE, BEYOND THE
BOUNDS OF EARTHLY
SPACE...

...FLIES CELESTINE, GREATEST
OF THE HEAVENLY WARRIORS
KNOWN AS THE SERAPHIM...

...MERCILESS, JOYOUS CHAMPION
OF THE ALMIGHTY, RUTHLESS AND
FANATICAL SCOURGE OF THE
UNGODLY.

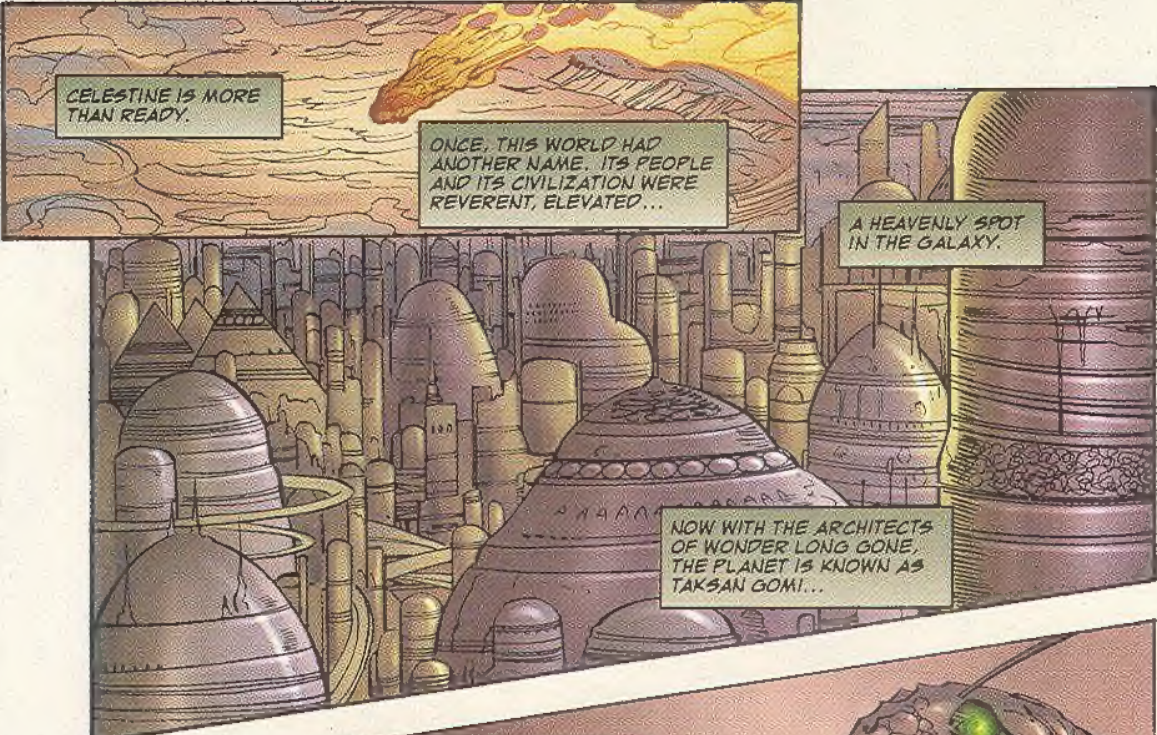
RECENTLY, SHE ESCAPED THE
BOUNDS OF DEATH ITSELF,
RESTORED TO DIVINITY AFTER
A BRIEF AND UNSPEAKABLE
INTERLUDE IN THE INFERNO.

CELESTINE HAS RETURNED
TO LIFE WITH A RENEWED
SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND
WITH KNOWLEDGE SHE NEVER
BEFORE POSSESSED.

IN THE PAST, SHE WAS CON-
TENT TO LIMIT HER ASSAULTS
TO SINNERS ON HEAVEN AND
ON EARTH.

NOW, SHE KNOWS THERE
ARE MANY, MANY MORE
RACES AND PLANETS TO
CONTENT WITH...

...AN ENTIRE UNIVERSE
IN NEED OF CHASTISEMENT.



CELESTINE IS MORE
THAN READY.

ONCE, THIS WORLD HAD
ANOTHER NAME. ITS PEOPLE
AND ITS CIVILIZATION WERE
REVERENT, ELEVATED...

A HEAVENLY SPOT
IN THE GALAXY.

NOW WITH THE ARCHITECTS
OF WONDER LONG GONE,
THE PLANET IS KNOWN AS
TAKSAN GOMI...



...AND IT HAS BEEN
CONQUERED AND
OVERRUN, LOOTED...

...BY A RACE OF VILE
AND SNIVELLING,
GODLESS LITTLE
FREEBOOTERS...

...KNOWN TO ALL
WHO'VE HAD THE
MISFORTUNE TO
ENCOUNTER THEM...

...AS THE
GOKIBURI.

TREACHEROUS
LITTLE
THIEVES

THEIR
DAY OF
RECKONING

...IS AT
HAND!!!

FORGET
BEAUTY!
DESTROY
HER!

JUDGEMENT
DAY! JUDGE-
MENT DAY!

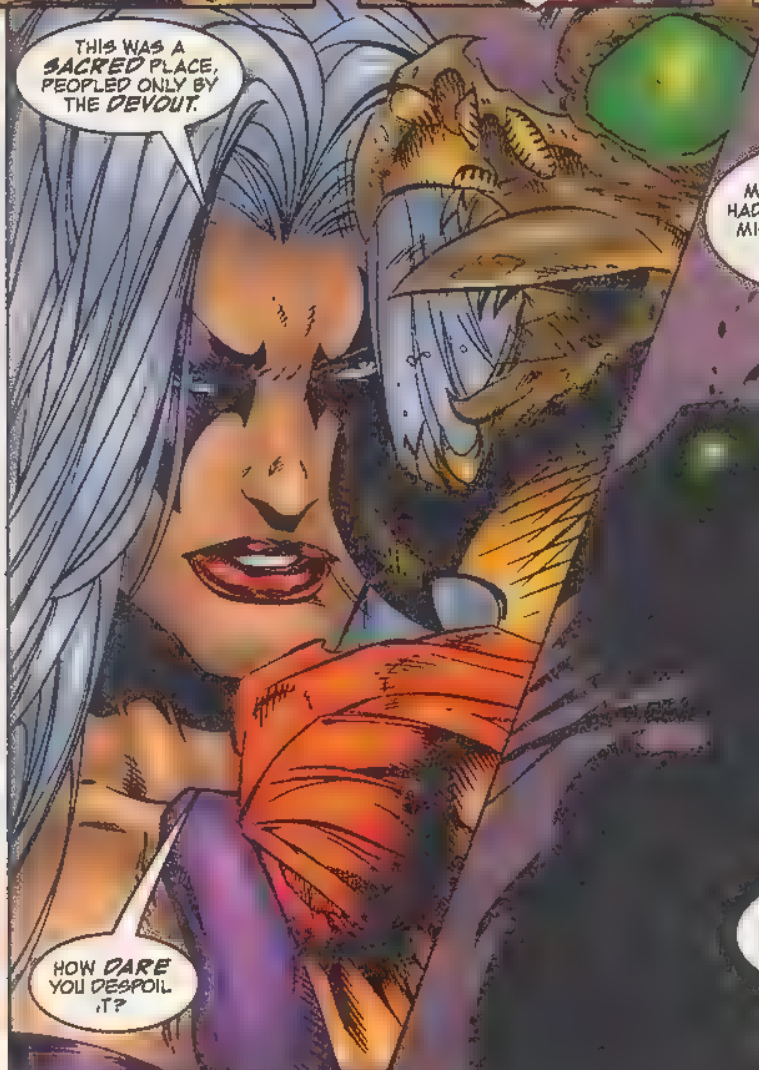
RUN
AWAY!

THAT
WITCH!

SHE'S
BEAUTIFUL!

WRONG!

COWARDS!
YOU CAN'T JUST
LEAVE ME
TO--!



THEY HAVE.

AAAAH!

CRASH
KLATTER!

YOU MISERABLE,
LITTLE
BUG!

EEEK!

IF SHE KILLS
HIM FIRST, THAT
MEANS MORE
PLUNDER FOR THE
REST OF US!

EEEK!

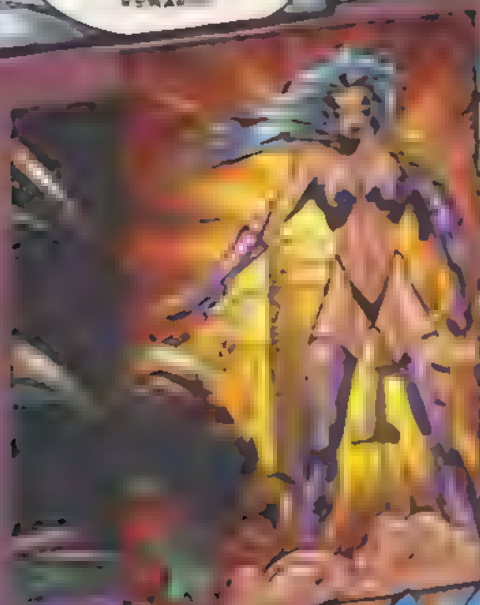
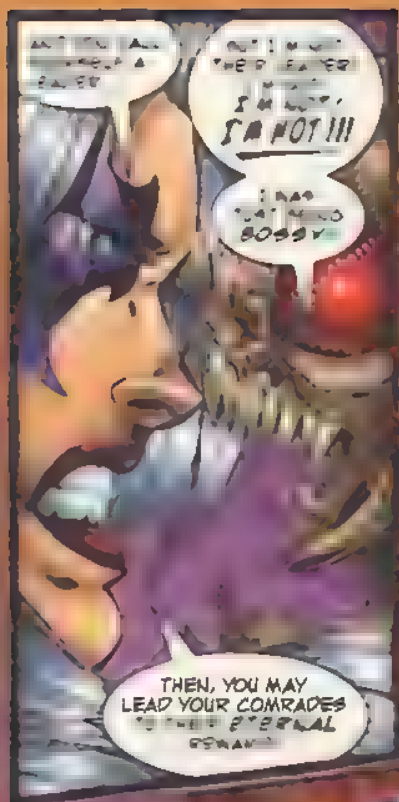
THIS WAS A
SACRED PLACE,
PEOPLED ONLY BY
THE DEVOUT.

IT WASN'T
MY FAULT! WE
HAD A LEADER! A
MISERABLE, SLY
EARTHER
MAGICIAN!

HOW DARE
YOU DESPOIL
IT?

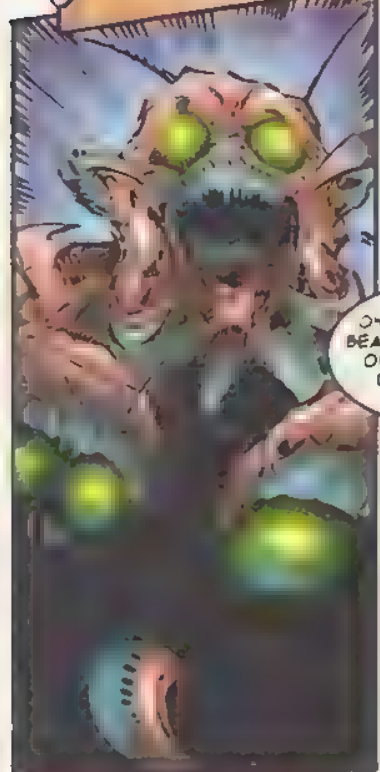
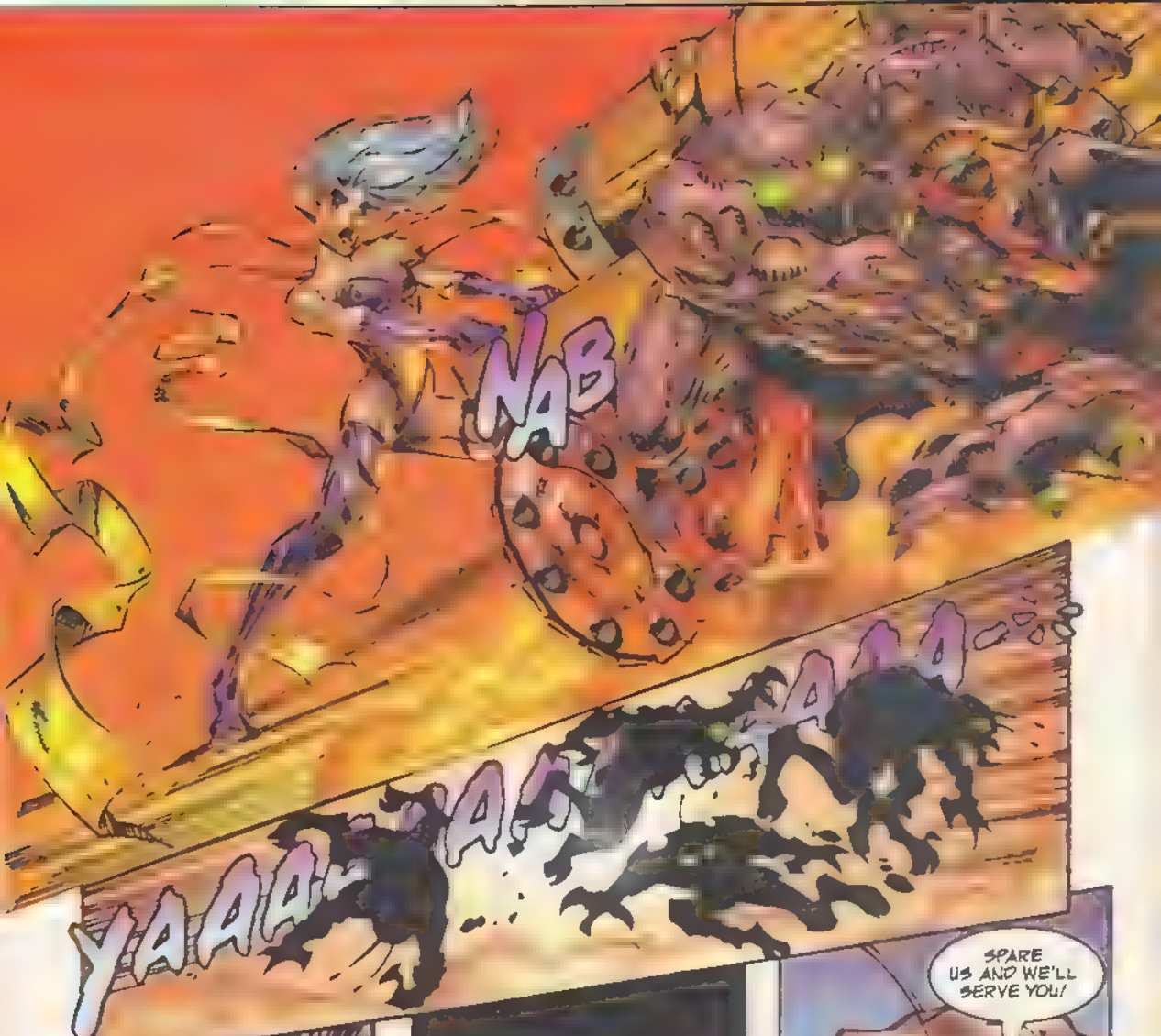
IT WAS
ALL HIS DEED!
HE MADE US
COME HERE!

Oh,
PLEASE!
DON'T KILL
ME!



CHAAAAARGE!

HOP



OH PLEASE
BEAUTIFUL LADY!
OH PLEASE
DON'T KILL
US!



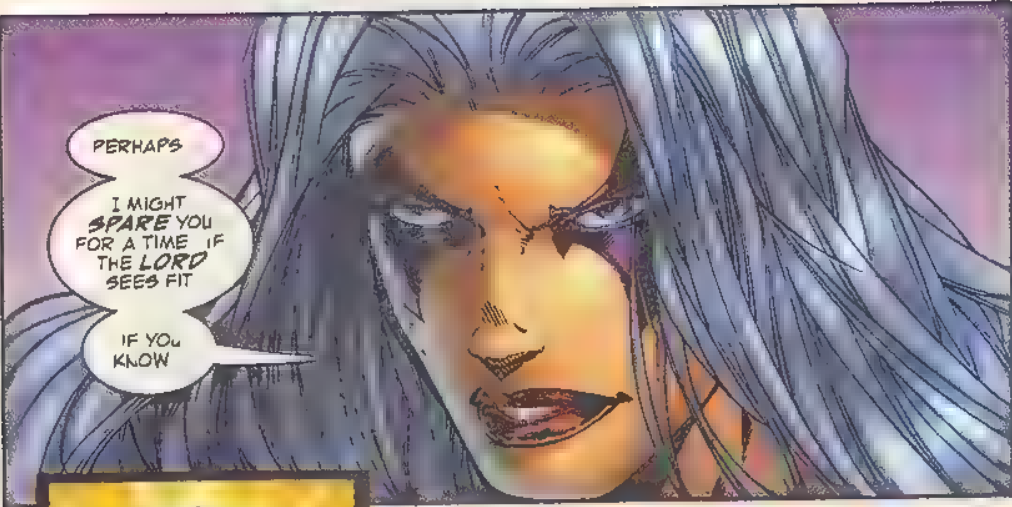
YOU'RE SO
STRONG AND
POWERFUL, WE'RE
NOT WORTH YOUR TIME!
WE'RE WEAK! WE'RE
STUPID! WE'D LOSE
YOUR AVERAGE!



SPARE
US AND WE'LL
SERVE YOU!

WE KNOW LOTS
OF ENEMIES OF GOD!
WE'VE BEEN EVERY-
WHERE! WE'LL GIVE
YOU NAMES AND
ADDRESSES!

WE
DESTROY THE
ENEMIES OF OUR-
SELVES! JUST
TELL US WHAT YOU
WANT US TO DO!!!

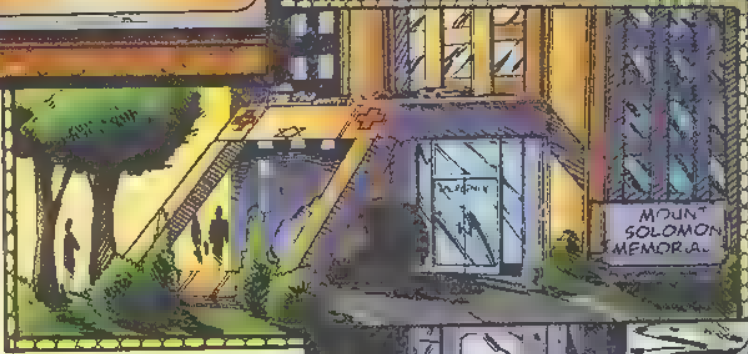
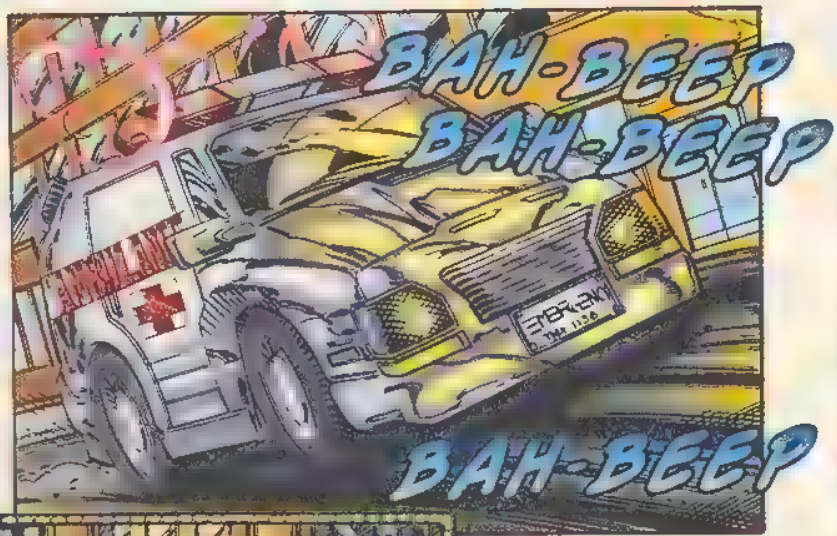


PERHAPS
I MIGHT
SPARE YOU
FOR A TIME IF
THE LORD
SEES FIT

IF YOU
KNOW



" WHERE ANY WEAPONS
TO SMITE THE UNGODLY
MIGHT LIE "

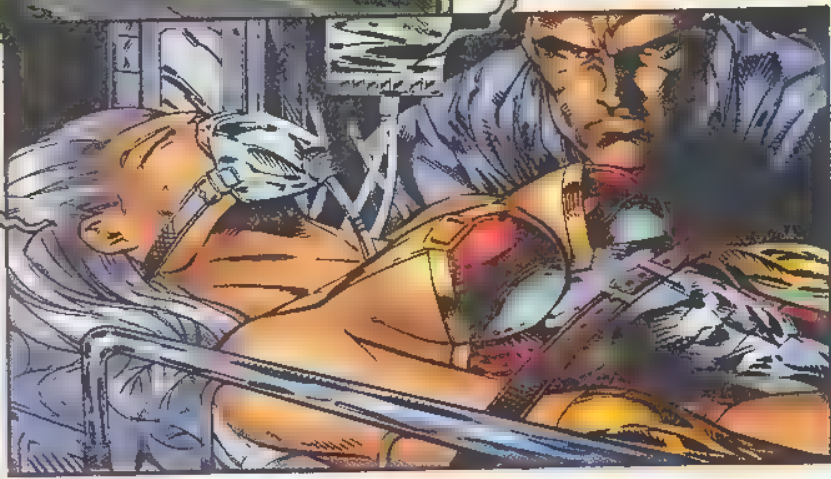


NOT... NOT...
EXPLOSION..

... SOMETHING
BEFORE...

... TOUCHED
SOMETHING
BEFORE...

"HANG ON. DON'T
TRY TO TALK."



WE'RE
REPORTING LIVE
FROM MOUNT
SOLOMON MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL...

...WHERE THE
SUPERHERO KNOWN
AS **GLORY** HAS
BEEN
RUSHED...

...JUST
MINUTES AFTER
SAVING DOZENS
OF LIVES

NO WORD YET
ON WHY SHE COLLAPSED
NOR ON WHAT COULD
HARM AN IMMORTAL OF
HER POWER

≡FAGH!≡
IT'S SO
OBVIOUS,
A CHILD COULD
SEE IT

HE IS CALLED THE ANCIENT--
ONE OF THE GREATEST OF
ALL TEACHERS OF THE
MYSTIC ARTS.

HE LIVES BENEATH THE SURFACE
OF THE EARTH, LOOKING IN ON
ALL THAT TRANSPIRES AMONG
THE MEMBERS OF BOTH HUMAN
AND SUPERHEROIC PEOPLE.

AND FINDS MUCH OF WHAT
HE SEES MOST ANNOYING.

*.. WITH AN OBJECT
BEYOND HER POWER
TO CONTROL. *

"AND SOON HER
VERY LIFE WILL
BE FORFEIT!"

WHY
DON'T THOSE FOOLS
LISTEN? THE
AMAZON WARRIOR
SPEAKS THE TRUTH/
SHE MEDDLED...





OH DR DELMONICO

WELL GLORY NURSE LAL AND I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU HERE AGAIN SO SOON

AND CERTAINLY NOT AS A PATIENT WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE YOU WELL

DAEDALUS... DAEDALUS...



EVERYONE HEARS HIS REPUTATION AND WANTS THE GREAT BEYOND DAEDALUS TO ATTEND THEM

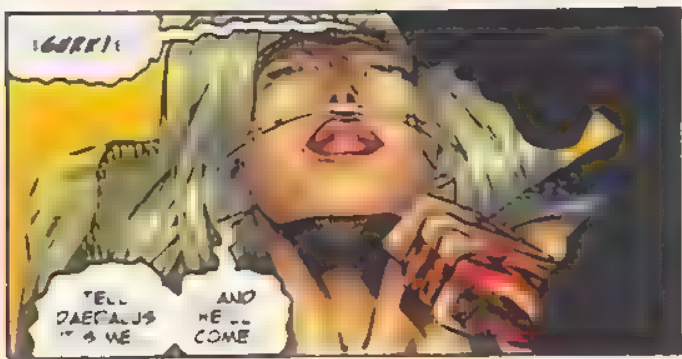
BUT IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE HE BARELY COMES INTO THE HOSPITAL ANYMORE

EVEN HEADS OF STATE CAN WAIT MONTHS



DOCTOR

WHAT'S GLORY?



GURGLE

TELL DAEDALUS " & WE

AND HE... COME



...!!



THE LEGEND OF EDMUND DAEDALUS IS WIDELY KNOWN AMONG FOLLOWERS OF THE OCCULT.

THAT HE WAS ONCE A SURGEON, SKILLED WITHOUT PEER, BUT VENAL, COLD AND GREEDY

THAT ONE DAY, HE TURNED FROM THE DARKNESS AND TOWARD THE LIGHT, AND ENTERED THE REALMS OF MAGIC...

DIVIDING HIS TIME EVER SINCE, BETWEEN THOSE WORLDS AND THIS

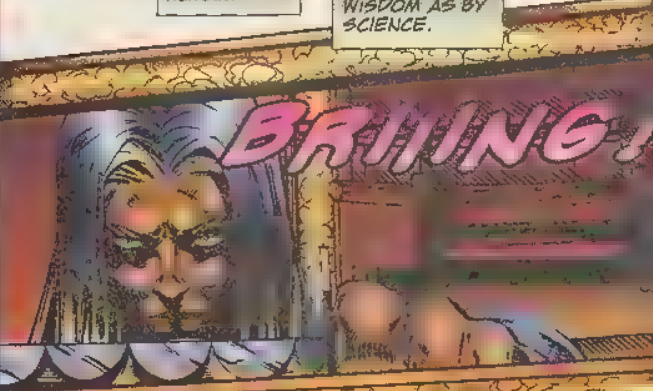
HELPING HUMANITY

AS MUCH BY WISDOM AS BY SCIENCE.

SHAOLUNG, TOO, SEEKS THE PATH OF ENLIGHTENMENT



HE CALLS DR. DAEDALUS "MASTER"



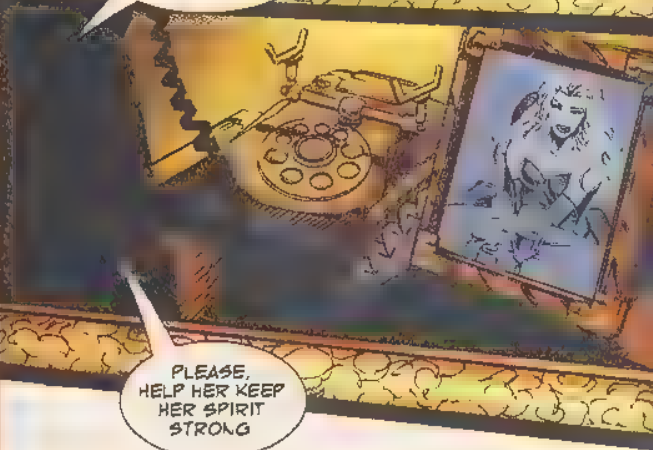
I'M SORRY, DR. DELMONICO. DR. DAEDALUS IS NOT...

HE'S IN A PLACE WHERE HE MAY NOT BE DISTURBED.

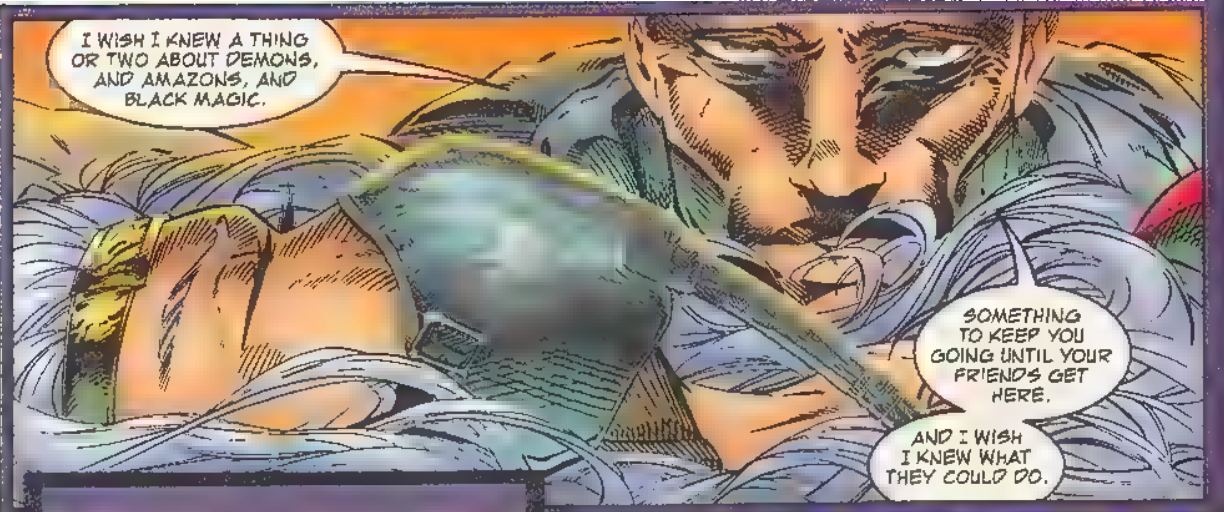
BEYOND THE WORLDLY CONFINES OF HIS STUDY, IN THE LABYRINTH OF ILLUSION

FOR GLORY?

YOU WERE RIGHT TO CALL. I'LL GET A MESSAGE TO HIM SOMEHOW



PLEASE, HELP HER KEEP HER SPIRIT STRONG



I WISH I KNEW A THING
OR TWO ABOUT DEMONS,
AND AMAZONS, AND
BLACK MAGIC.

SOMETHING
TO KEEP YOU
GOING UNTIL YOUR
FRIENDS GET
HERE.

AND I WISH
I KNEW WHAT
THEY COULD DO.



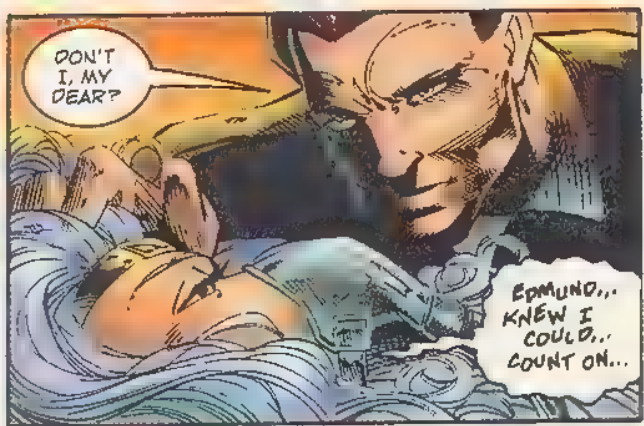
IT TAKES
LESS TIME TO
DO IT THAN IT
WOULD TO
EXPLAIN.

DR.
DAEDALUS!!



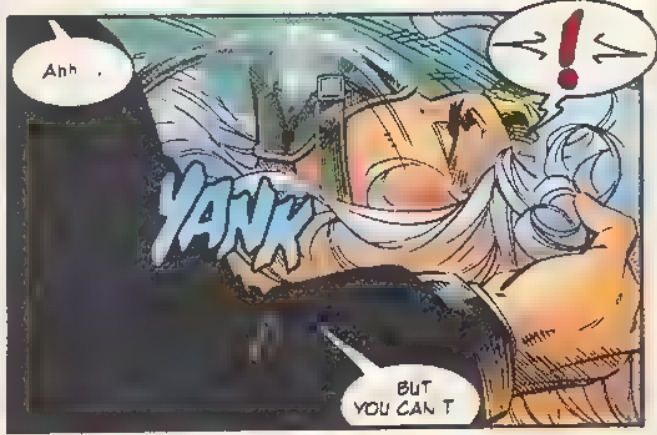
THANK YOU FOR
STAYING WITH MY
PATIENT, DR. DEL-
MONICO. I WON'T
NEED GLORY'S
CHART

I KNOW
VERY WELL WHAT
AIDS HER.



DON'T
I, MY
DEAR?

EDMUND...
KNEW I
COULD...
COUNT ON...



Ahh .

YANK

BUT
YOU CAN'T



YOUR
BELOVED CHAMPION
IS OFF SOMEWHERE
WANDERING THE PATHS
OF THE LABYRINTH OF
ILLUSION.

HIS
PRECIOUS
LITTLE STUDENT
MAY NOT FIND HIM
FOR DAYS.

AND I
HOPE YOU, MY DEAR,
HAVE LEARNED A GOOD
LESSON ABOUT NOT
TOUCHING THINGS THAT
DON'T BELONG TO
YOU...

...OR
OPENING CON-
TAINERS WHICH
BETTER BE
SEALED

...CHALICE...
OPENED BY
ACCIDENT...
DURING...
FIGHT

WHO...
ARE...
YOU?

GLORY, MY
DEAREST DARLING,
DO YOU REALLY NOT
REMEMBER? HAVE
YOU TRULY FOR-
GOTTEN?

AFTER ALL
WE MEANT TO
EACH OTHER A FEW
SHORT DECADES
AGO?

COULD YOU
REALLY HAVE BEEN
PLAYING, JUST THIS
WEEK, WITH THE
TALISMAN OF
DOOM...

...AND
FORGOTTEN THE
ONE WHO WAS IN-
STRUMENTAL IN ITS
MAKING?

I ALWAYS
REGRETTED YOU
BANISHING ME
AFTER OUR LITTLE
SKIRMISH...

FORCING
ME TO SET MYSELF
UP AS RULER OF THE
ABSOLUTE WRETCHES
OF SPACE.

BUT
I WACK
NOW



AND I GO
TO CLAIM MY
PRIZE.

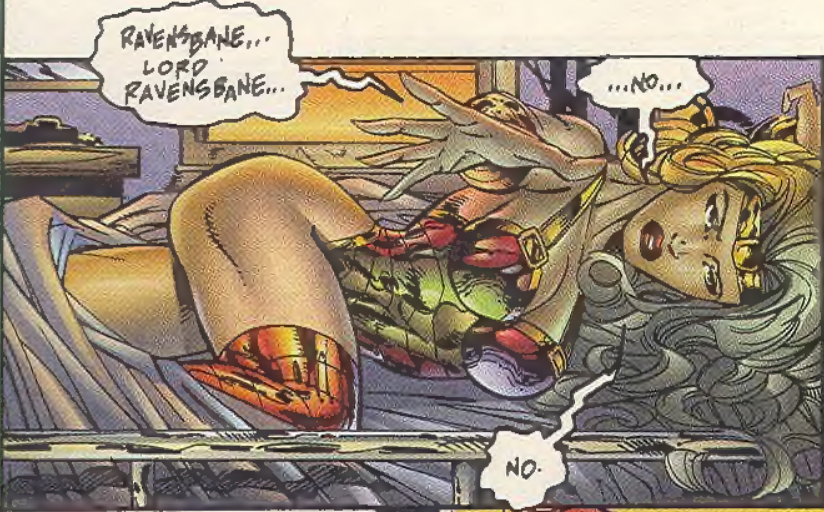
KNOWING
IT'S **ALREADY**
KILLED YOU MAKES
IT ALL THE
SWEETER.

PROMISE
ME YOU'LL DIE IN
AGONY, THERE'S A
GOOD GIRL. TA-TA!



I'M...
DYING...

NO
YOU'RE NOT.
I WON'T LET
YOU.



RAVENSBANE...
LORD
RAVENSBANE...

...NO...

NO.



WHO~?

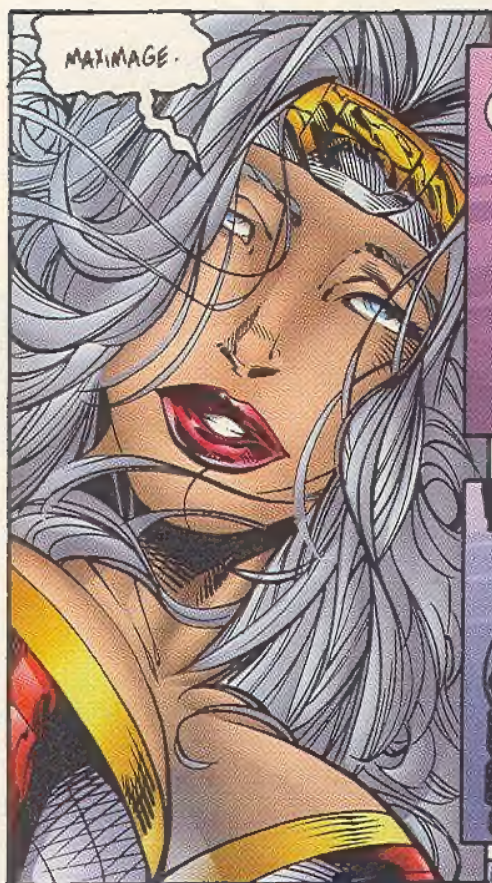
SHAOLUNG
IS NEVER GONNA
FIND DR.
DAEDALUS IN
TIME.



THAT
GUY IS REALLY
LOST.

BUT MY
TEACHER--THE
ANCIENT... HE KNEW
YOU WERE IN
TROUBLE.

SO HE
SENT ME TO
HELP.



MAXIMAGE.



I KNEW
YOU'D REMEM-
BER ME!

THE
ANCIENT EVEN
TOLD ME WHAT
TO DO.



HE
SAID...

...YOU'D CAUGHT A
BAD CASE OF DEATH,
BY HANDLING
SOMETHING...

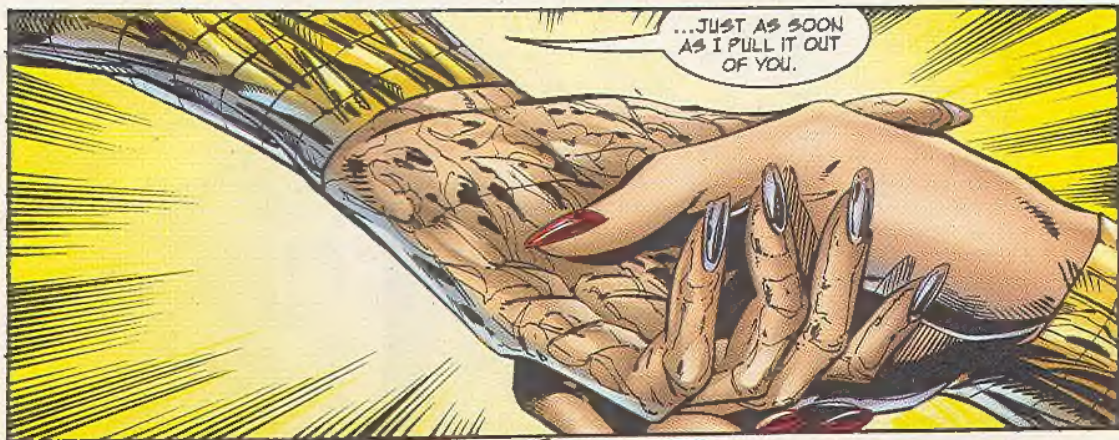
...LIKE THE
OPPOSITE OF
A HORN OF
PLENTY.

KIND OF
LIKE A HORN OF
ANNIHILATION.

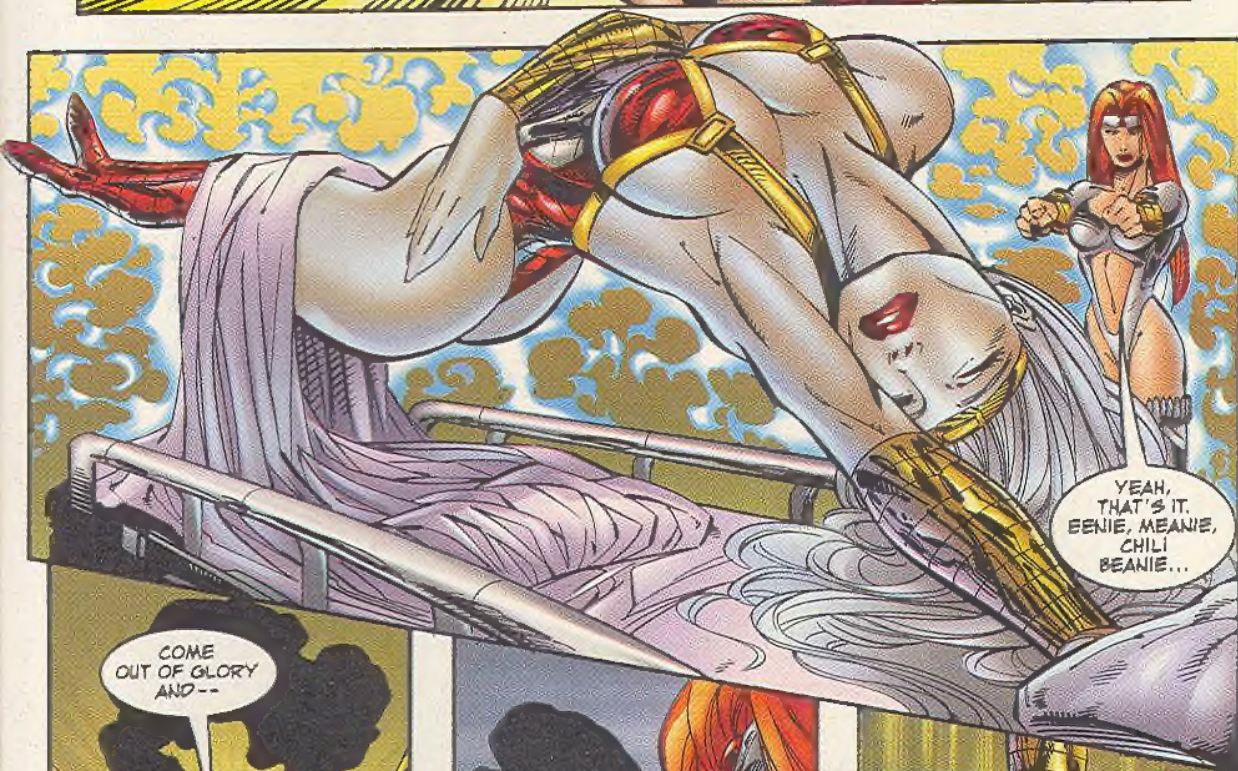
HE TOLD ME
WHERE THE EVIL
THINGIE IS STORED...
AND TOLD ME TO SEND
THE UNLIFE ENERGY
BACK THERE...



WEST ARRLINGTON
MUSEUM OF
FOLKLORE



...JUST AS SOON
AS I PULL IT OUT
OF YOU.

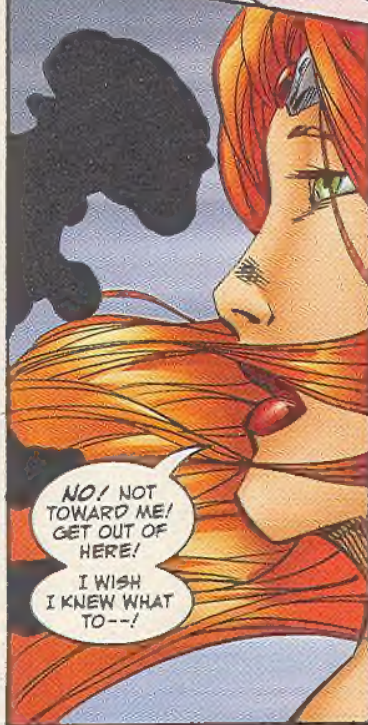


YEAH,
THAT'S IT.
BENIE, MEANIE,
CHILI
BEANIE...



COME
OUT OF GLORY
AND--

--HEY!



NO! NOT
TOWARD ME!
GET OUT OF
HERE!
I WISH
I KNEW WHAT
TO--!



HER WISH
IS HER
POWER'S
COMMAND.

BUMBOOM



POISONOUS
AND VILE...



...THE ENERGY
OF ANNIHILATION...



...FLIES BACK FROM
THE WELLSPRING IT
FLOWED FROM...



...WHERE IT'S
TRAPPED.



WELL DONE,
MAXIMAGE. I'D
NEVER GUESS YOU
WERE AN
APPRENTICE.

UHH...ARE
YOU GOING TO
NEED ANY MORE
HELP WITH
THIS?

I OWE YOU
MORE THAN I
CAN EVER PAY
ALREADY.

AND YOU'RE
TOO YOUNG TO FACE
WHAT I'M UP AGAINST.
IF THE TALISMAN
OF DOOM IS STILL ACTIVE,
IT COULD BRING ABOUT
ARMAGEDDON.

I WON'T STOP
UNTIL IT'S
DESTROYED.

CONTINUED